

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 06258 271811Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

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P R 271700Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1284

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 6258

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, EGEN, ETRD, PFOR, GE, US

SUBJECT: US-GDR TRADE TALKS

REF: STATE 200437; BERLIN 6237 (NOTAL)

### 1. THE SCHEDULE FOR THE DOWNEY VISIT FOLLOWS:

AUGUST 28, 29, AND 30

DOWNEY AND PARTY ARRIVE SCHOENEFELD, MET BY EMBASSY.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

AMBASSADOR COOPER, DOWNEY, AND PARTY (GROVE, LORIMER, PARKER, HUTCHINSON, AND HASFURTHER) DEPART BY CAR FOR LEIPZIG ON DOWNEY ARRIVAL AT SCHOENEFELD.

1530 ARRIVE LEIPZIG. AMBASSADOR COOPER AND PARKER ACCOMMODATED IN HOTEL STADT LEIPZIG. DOWNEY AND BALANCE OF PARTY IN HOTEL ASTORIA AS OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DELEGATION.

1700 OFFICIAL WELCOME TO DOWNEY PARTY BY GDR OFFICIALS AT HOTEL ASTORIA

2000 FAIR OPENING CEREMONY AT OPERA HOUSE. GDR PROPOSES TO PROVIDE TICKETS FOR AMBASSADOR, DOWNEY, LORIMER AND PARKER

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 06258 271811Z

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

1100. AMBASSADOR AND DOWNEY GROUP RECEIVE "STATE AND PARTY" DELEGATION PROBABLY HEADED BY HONECKER AT UNION CARBIDE STAND. AMBASSADOR GIVES BRIEF WELCOMING STATEMENT. (AT MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN TRADE REQUEST THE EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE SUBSTANCE OF AMBASSADOR'S PLANNED REMARKS TO MFT ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 29)

1430 MEETING WITH FAIR AUTHORITY DIRECTOR GENERAL AND TOUR OF FAIR.

1900 STATE RECEPTION. GDR PROPOSES TO INVITE AMBASSADOR, DOWNEY, LORIMER, AND PARKER. GDR WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO RECEPTION.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

1000-1700 TOUR OF FAIR TECHNICAL EXHIBITS ESCORTED BY STRAGIS FROM GDR EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

1000 TRADE TALKS MEETING (WHOLE U.S. GROUP) (SEE PARA 2 BELOW).

1500 MEETING WITH STATE SECRETARY GERHARD BEIL (DOWNEY, GROVE, LORIMER, PARKER)

1700 DEPART LEIPZIG BY CAR FOR BERLIN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

DOWNEY DEPARTS FOR PRAGUE ON OK-725 (DEPARTMENT OBTAINING RESERVATION PER STATE 203316). BALANCE OF PARTY TO WASHINGTON.

2. IN A MEETING WITH THE EMBASSY AUGUST 27, SCHMIED OF MFT SAID THE GDR COULD NOT YET PROVIDE A LIST OF GDR PARTICIPANTS, AT TUESDAY MORNING MEETING BUT ASSURED IT WOULD BE A MANAGEABLE GROUP AND WOULD PROBABLY BE HEADED BY CHAMBER OF FOREIGN TRADE DIRECTOR GENERAL RUDOLF MURGOTT, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BERLIN 06258 271811Z

WITH REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT OF, AMONG OTHERS, CENTRAL BUREAU FOR INTERNATIONAL LICENSING TRADE OF THE GDR, AND GDR FOREIGN TRADE BANK. SCHMIED SAID THE GDR SIDE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THE SECOND TOPIC PROPOSED BY US-- IMPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR 1976-80 PLAN -- BECAUSE THE PLAN HAS NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. DURING THE SAME CONVERSATION EMBOFF REITERATED US WILLINGNESS TO EXPLAIN THE TRADE ACT AND EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT DOWNEY

WOULD ADDRESS THE MFN QUESTION AS POSED BY THE GDR.  
SCHMIED SAID THERE IS NO NEED TO EXPLAIN THE TRADE ACT  
WHICH THE GDR ALREADY UNDERSTANDS.

3. OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT THE GDR IS GOING TO SOME  
LENGTH TO MAKE MR. DOWNEY'S VISIT PLEASANT AND IMPRESSIVE.  
LODGINGS AT THE ASTORIA AND THE PLANNED HANDSHAKE WITH  
HONECKER ARE HEADY STUFF IN THE GDR SCHEME OF THINGS  
AND BESPEAK STRON INTEREST IN WINNING US ATTENTION AND  
INTEREST.

4. EMBASSY WILL ATTEMP IN TIME REMAINING TO GET GDR  
TO FOCUS ON AGENDA OF TRADE TALKS MEETING AS RE-CAST  
IN DEPARTMENT TELCON AUGUST 27.  
GROVE

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## Message Attributes

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